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Historian  
Naval Academy Preparatory School  
440 Meyerkord Ave.  
Newport, Rhode Island 02841

Subject: 1915-1916 Preparatory School for USNA

I would greatly appreciate assistance in discovering the preparatory school my father **Allan Douglas Blackledge** attended in Annapolis prior to his taking the entrance examination and entering the Academy with the Class of 1920.

I understand that NAPS did not begin until 1915. I don't know what Prep Schools were operating in the Annapolis area during 1915-1916. His transcript with the Class of 1920 does not list the prep school.

My father was born in July 1896 and received an appointment from Congress-man Shallenberger of Nebraska in the Fall of 1915. I have learned this from an article on the front page of the Red Cloud Chief [Webster County, Red Cloud, NE] of May 18, 2016<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, according to this article:

1. Allan Blackledge had [at time of article] been attending prep school in Annapolis for the past five months
2. He took the April examination for entrance and just received word he passed
3. 1800 candidates took the examination; 450 passed [25%]
4. From his preliminary physical exam in Fall 1915, he required a surgical operation
5. Was in hospital 3 weeks following surgery; then attended Prep School

Do your records indicate the dates of the entrance examination for the Academy in 1916? Do you have alumni records for this year? Any information to assist me in this quest for historical information could be relayed by email or post - my contact information is provided in the header.

Most appreciatively,

- Michael A. Blackledge

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<sup>i</sup> Available on-line:  
<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84022835/1916-05-18/ed-1/seq-1/>